

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-28. (Deleted)

29. (Amended) An improved automatic fish hook apparatus formed from a single wire comprising:

a first shank having a first end and a second end;

a second shank having a first end and a second end;

a tensioner disposed intermediate the first shank and the second shank at about the middle of the single piece of wire, and at about the first end of the first shank and at about the first end of the second shank, the tensioner having a first state and a second state; and

a latch having a first latch position and a second latch position, the latch disposed about the first shank and releaseably in communication with the second shank,

wherein

the first latch position maintains the tensioner in the first state whereby the second end of the first shank is partially obscured by the second end of the second shank by crossing the second ends of the respective shanks and upon the application of two generally opposing forces applied about the first shank and the second shank the tensioner is released into the second state.

30. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the first shank comprises a first hook.

31. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the second shank comprises a second hook.

32. The improved fish hook of Claim 30 wherein the first hook further comprises a barb disposed about the second end of the first hook.

33. The improved fish hook of Claim 31 wherein the second hook further comprises a barb disposed about the second end of the second hook.

34. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the tensioner comprises a spring.

35. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the tensioner comprises a coil.

36. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the tensioner comprises one or more coils of said single wire.

37. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 further comprising a prong along the first shank.

38. (Amended) The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the first ~~second~~ position disposes the first shank and the second shank substantially parallel and the second position disposes the first shank and the second shank crossed.

39. The improved fish hook of Claim 37 wherein the prong comprises a body.

40. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 further comprising an eyelet disposed about and intermediate the first shank and the second shank.

41. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the latch may be released upon the

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application of two generally opposing forces applied along the first shank and the second shank.

42. The improved fish hook of Claim 41 wherein the two generally opposing forces are generally in a direction of one another.

43. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the latch is disposed about the tensioner.

44. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the latch is disposed proximate the first end of the first shank and the first end of the second shank and releasably in communication with the tensioner.

45. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the tensioner further comprises a brad.

46. The improved fish hook of Claim 45 wherein the brad comprises a hollow bore brad.

47. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the wire comprises a metal.

48. The improved fish hook of Claim 47 wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of steel, iron, aluminum, copper, an alloy of steel, an alloy of iron, an alloy of aluminum, an alloy of copper and combinations thereof.

49. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the wire comprises a composite material.

50. (Amended) An improved releasably biasable apparatus formed from a single piece of wire comprising:

a first shank having a first end and a second end;

a second shank having a first end and a second end;

a tensioner disposed intermediate the first shank and the second shank, the tensioner having a first state and a second state; and

a latch having a first latch position and a second latch position, the latch disposed about the first shank and the second shank and releasably in communication with the tensioner,

whereby

the first latch position maintains the tensioner in the first state whereby the second end of the first shank is partially obscured by the second end of the second shank by crossing the second ends of the respective shanks and the second latch position releases the tensioner into its second state.

51. The improved fish hook of Claim 29 wherein the tensioner comprises a tensioner assembly.

52. The improved fish hook of Claim 44 wherein the latch comprises a cam — —.

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